

OTPE JC106 301500 MARK  
SEP 24 2004  
IN THE  
PATENT & TRADE

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

~~~~~

If the sum of \$180.00 is due under 37 CFR § 1.17(p) pursuant to § 1.97, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge this fee, and any other fee necessary to make this submission timely, to the Deposit Account No. 20-0782/WEAT/0359.P1/JCH.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason C. Huang  
Registration No. 46,222  
MOSER, PATTERSON & SHERIDAN, L.L.P.  
3040 Post Oak Blvd. Suite 1500  
Houston, TX 77056  
Telephone: (713) 623-4844  
Facsimile: (713) 623-4846  
Attorney for Applicants



Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1

of 2

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number     | 10/775,048        |
| Filing Date            | February 9, 2004  |
| First Named Inventor   | Richard L. Giroux |
| Group Art Unit         | 3672              |
| Examiner Name          | Unknown           |
| Attorney Docket Number | WEAT/0359.P1      |
| Submission Date        |                   |

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                    |                       | Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A1                    | US-2004/000405 a1                        | 01-01-2004                     | Fournier, JR. et al                                |                                                                                 |
|                    | A2                    | US-5,836,395                             | 11-17-1998                     | Budde                                              |                                                                                 |
|                    | A3                    | US-6,173,777 B1                          | 01-16-2001                     | Mullins                                            |                                                                                 |
|                    | A4                    | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A5                    | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A6                    | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A7                    | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A8                    | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A9                    | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A10                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A11                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A12                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A13                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A14                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A15                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A16                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A17                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |
|                    | A18                   | US-                                      |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document                                                           | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages or<br>Relevant Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup> |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|                    |                       | Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |
|                    | B1                    |                                                                                   |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |
|                    | B2                    |                                                                                   |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |
|                    | B3                    |                                                                                   |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |
|                    | B4                    |                                                                                   |                                |                                                    |                                                                                 |                |

Examiner

Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.